

NEWS: Nominations sought for the new Columbia Basin Partnership Task Force of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee.

Applications accepted through September 6, 2016.

(July 22, 2016) NOAA Fisheries and the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC) are pleased to announce we are seeking nominations for the new Columbia Basin Partnership (CBP) Task Force. This Task Force will assist MAFAC in developing recommendations on quantitative goals for all salmon and steelhead in the Columbia Basin – listed and non-listed species – in order to address long term conservation needs, harvest goals, and Tribal/treaty responsibilities for NOAA Fisheries consideration. Shared goals will enhance engagement and understanding by providing a concise, common definition of success; consistent means to measure progress; and improved public support for work across the Columbia River Basin.

The Task Force will be comprised of 25-35 individuals who demonstrate subject matter expertise regarding salmon and steelhead biology and management in the Columbia River Basin, as well as the interest and ability to work. Individuals who are chosen to serve will represent the geographic diversity of the Columbia River Basin, as well as the diversity of interests including: state and tribal fish managers; NGO/environmental; commercial fishing; recreational fishing; utility; river industry; agricultural/irrigation; and local watershed or recovery planning interests. At least one member of MAFAC will serve as a member of the Task Force.

All sovereigns and stakeholders who meet the membership criteria outlined in the <u>Federal</u> <u>Register Notice</u> are invited to submit nomination materials and self-nominations are acceptable. Membership is voluntary and, except for any potential reimbursable travel and related expenses, service is without pay.

How to submit a nomination: Nominations should be addressed to Katherine Cheney and must be postmarked or have an email date stamp on or before September 6, 2016 (Katherine.Cheney@noaa.gov or NMFS West Coast Region, 1201 Northeast Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232). Details about the materials that must be submitted are in the Federal Register Notice that published today.

For more information please contact: MAFAC or 301-427-8034.